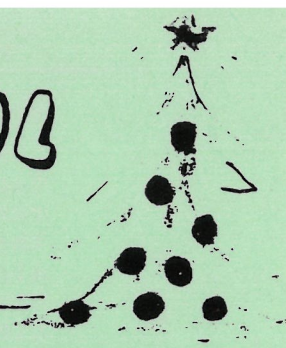




Christmas MIDDLE SCHOOL GOOD TIMES



Vol. 18 #2

Paw Paw Middle School

25¢

What We Want for Christmas

This month we did a survey of the seventh graders to see what they want least and most for Christmas. You should have seen all the interesting responses we got. The most wanted thing from the seventh graders was money, clothing and leather jackets. Underwear and socks were least wanted for almost half of the seventh grade. I also must add that a lot of guys and girls don't want Barbie dolls either. The most unusual want for Christmas was a blank check with an extremely rich persons' signature on it. Also a few people wanted thier favorite guys or girls to like them. Toilet bowl cleaner and sand were the most unusual wanted gift. The most heartwarming gift in Christmas spirit was some people wanted to be with their families, plus one person wanted their grandfather back. These are just a few of the many silly and crazy responses we got. Thank you very much for all answering our questions. Hope you all have a happy holiday.

a. alexander

BAND COMPETITION

Some of the Paw Paw band members attended a solo/ensamble competition on Saturday, December 2nd in Niles at the Brandywine H.S. Many other schools were competing there.

The students were graded on a scale of 1-5, 1 being best. Everybody from the middle school got a 3 or better.

There will be another solo/ensamble in the spring.

a. travis and m.c. heather



Holiday Hop

"THE HOLIDAY HOP"

On Friday, December 6, we had our middle school Christmas dance. The "Holiday Hop" went very well.

The DJ's at our dance were Matt Butler and Shawn Hart, otherwise known as the "Dodge Boys." Santa Claus also visited us at the dance. Pictures could be taken with him for a dollar a

picture. We had a great amount of students show up at the dance. It was a lot of fun.

2.5K RUNNERS

The top five runners in the 2.5k run in November were Chris Wielenga and Kari Vesey, first place, Matt Chase and Anna Verhoeven, second place, Louis Williams and Kelly Hart, third place, Jody Silber and Katie Rock, fou place, and fifth place, Chip Wright.

Thoughts on Christmas...

Kristen Janecke and Allison Coles were assigned to ask questions about what people thought about Christmas! Here are the questions and some of the responses we got- Al Cotten of Crossroads Mall- Question: Do you think Christmas is over commercialized? Answer: Yes, there is too much pressure to buy, buy, buy. Also the true meaning of Christmas is lost. Hillary Bates of Portage- Question: What is the most popular item? The most expensive? Answer: My son asked for a Porsche (very impractical), but I think music is the most popular item.

k. janecke and a. coles

M.S./H.S. Jazz Band

The High School/Middle School Jazz band will be formed after basketball, when the pep band is over because the people in pep band are a lot of the people that are in jazz band. The jazz band last year played two or three songs at one of the concerts. The jazz band consists mostly of trumpets, saxaphones, trumbones and sometimes a clarinet.

The pep band plays at the basket ball ~~game~~ at home. It is mostly made up of High Schoolers but, there were five eighth graders that were asked to play. At the games the pep band will play "Tequila", "Lovie, Lovie", "Paw Paw Fight Song", "Star Spangled Banner", and possibly "Killer Joe" and "The Stopper".

A. Travis

Alicia Featured Nationally

Alicia Dacoba just recently appeared in the December-January issue of the nationally sold magazine "Pot Bellied Pigs". There were two fully colored pages of Alicia and her dummy Angelo, miniature horse Myron, and her pig Pork Chop. There was also a great article about Alicia and all her ventriliquism.

Congratulations and good luck in the future Alicia!

l. smith

6th Grade Band Concert

January 28th-A big day for the sixth grade. Their first band concert ever! Some songs they are going to play are "The Crusades" and some Christmas songs.

Mr. Haupt is the director of the concert. The people that are going to play in this concert are Andrea Barnes playing the Baritone; Sarah Thomas, Shaanon Boulter, Amy Osment, Lucas Mansburger, Robby Oswald, Kristen Schull and Alana Johnson playing the Cornet/Trumpet; Trisna Evans, Rachel Beyer, Jackie Bearden, Desiree Danger, Tony Charlier, Alison Alden, Kelly Hart, Amber Atwater, Michelle Sellinger, Erica Selby, Beth Schmucker, Sarah Maxwell, and Ian Healy playing Clarinet; Joe Essar, Ryan Piecyk, Amanda Nelson, Caitlin Bloink, Chris Bruemmer, Justin Harrison, Chris Brown and Andy Seidel playing Trombone; Andrea Farber, Michelle Wallace, Cheryl Glidden, Emily Siber, Sarah Hagg, Kim Emerson, Shannah Wendell, Kristen Myers and Michelle Owens playing Flute; Eileen Pardike, Andy Krause, Joe Dirrima, Jason Schultz, Theo Hudson, Kristy Miller and Lauren McKenzie playing Saxophone.

Harty and mckenzie

Poet's Corner at Wendy's

Been to Wendy's? Hope you got to see all the middle school students' poems on display. They have been there since November 18. The lucky poets received free meals at Wendy's and a bus trip at lunch Friday, the 13th, to enjoy their work while they had lunch, courtesy of Wendy's. The poets were Roy Borden, David Barnes, Art Richmond, Juri Groenland, Lori Barr, Jennifer Richmond, Josh Golladay, Bob Bilton, Anna Cabras, Bethany Ruggles and Mary Tapper from the 8th grade.

7th graders included Jessica Silber, Jessica Surdy, Ry Charters, Chris Moore, Anna Oliva, Linda Morrison, John Branch and

Meeting an Elf

One day I decided to take a walk through the woods. I came upon quite a curious creature. It was one of Santa's elves

The elf was quite friendly so I explained that I was a reporter for "The Good Times" school newspaper and asked for an interview. Thomasena was delighted. "Just fire away". "O.k., first, whats it like to work for Santa?"

"It's really very fun and he always gives us special presents, he makes himself, at Christmas."

"What is Santa really like?" "Santa is loving, jolly and fun to be around."

"What about Mrs. Claus?"

"Mrs. Claus is like a mother and a grandma in one."

"What's your favorite food?"

"That's kind of hard to decide, I'd say chocolate pizza."

"What do you do in your spare time?" "Talk to Rudolph and Prancer and Vixen."

"Well, I hope that I see you again sometime soon. I have to get home. Nice meeting you Thomasena."

"Nice meeting you Jenny, have a merry Christmas. Look for a green

package under the tree. It will be from me." The question is does Jenny get the package? Well if you want to know just ask her.

j. winters

UP ON THE ROOFTOP?

Up on the house top the reindeer pause,

Off falls good ol' Santa Claus,

Down to the ground in the snow below

Then he moans -oh hohoho.

Oh no who would've guessed?

Oh no who would've guessed?

Off falls the fat man

Thump thump thump

Now he will have a big fat bump.

h.culton

SNOW

Snow is beautiful
Snow is white,
It falls throughout the day
And all through the night.
It sticks on the trees,
And piles on the ground,
But ever so silently,
It doesn't make a sound.
In the snow
Are many things you can do.
You can roll in it
Play in it
And throw snowballs too.
Whenever the snow comes,
It makes me want to sing.
That is why snow is
Such a wonderful thing.
l.smith

M.T.V. - What Do You Like about it?

Derek Nondorf "Loves M.T.V. and all the videos." He likes Motley Crue, Nirvana and Guns "n" Roses. Kristi Jack says, "It is cool and it improves my dancing and my mind." She likes Slaughter, Skid Row, Nelson, Trixter and Fire House.

George Melichar says, "It's cool." He prefers the Party Machine. Greg Stewert thinks, "They need more rap music." He likes N.W.A. and Ice Cube.

Chad Heldt thinks, "M.T.V. is a sweet channel, that you get to see new videos." The music he listens to is Fresh Prince, ABC, BBD and Boyz Two Men.

Lindsey Smith loves it. She says, "It is her favorite channel and she watches it constantly even though her parents don't like her watching it." Micheal Jackson really appeals to her. Erika Harvey thinks, "It is awesome but, they should play more heavy metal." She likes Metallica and Motley Crue. Jeremy Crump said, "It is awesome but, they should play the "Top 20" more often." He likes Boyz Two Men because the way they make there videos in the streets of a big city.

MTV. (continued)

Stacy Vowels likes Color Me Bad, Mariah Carey, Hammer and Yo M.T.V. Raps. Kellie Wilson thinks, "It's great." She likes Slaughter. Angel Homan thinks, "It's awesome." She likes Marky Mark and the Funky Bunch.

Tara Anderson says, "It's cool." She likes Salt and Peppa. Mr. Topp (I didn't know he watched it) thinks, "Some of it is good and some of it is bad." He likes the half-hour comedy hour and Heavy D.

Marie Bonter says, "It's sweet, sort of educational but, mostly fun." Skid Row and Mariah Carey are her favorites. Ayer Truckey thinks, "It's o.k., especially M.T.V. Raps." Her favorites are N.W.A., Naughty By Nature, Too Short and Easy-E.

Alison Nelson says, "It's kick. The only thing wrong is all the commercials and Yo M.T.V. Raps. Motley Crue, Skid Row, Metallica and G.N.R.. Ed Anders says, "It's cool. We should watch it in class instead of Channel One." He likes BBD and Hammer.

Berry Casanto thinks, "It is cool. I love it." She likes Metallica, N.W.A., and Easy-E. Tara Sperry says, "I love it." Salt-n-Peppa, Metallica, Too Short and Hammer (The Addams Family) are her favorites. Melanie Mann thinks, "It's great because it has a lot of neat shows and songs on there." She likes Marky Mark.

Angie Butcher says, "I love it. I wouldn't know what to do without it." She likes Nelson and the song she likes is "Only Time Will Tell". Angela Yale thinks, "It's cool." her favorites are Metallica, Motley Crue, Too Short, N.W.A., Marky Mark, Fire House, Naughty By Nature, BBD, ABC, Salt-n-Peppa.

Dawn Curry thinks, "It's cool." She likes Metallica, N.W.A., Naughty By Nature, BBD, ABC, Salt-n-Peppa and Skid Row.

by D. Curry + U. Holzworth

HOW TO GET YOUR PARENTS

How to get your parents eating out of your hand...by a. tapper and g. verhoeven

EATING OUT OF YOUR HAND!

Chapter one- The right mood

The most important step to successfully getting what you want is timing. You will hear this over and over. If you get your parents at the wrong time then you've already blown it.

Before you even try to get what you want, ask your parents how their day was. If you find out it was not very good, then for heavens' sake, don't ask them until tomorrow. By then it will probably be safe.

Another thing to remember is to be serious. If you are laughing they won't take you seriously. Talk to them with confidence.

Some ways to get them into a good mood are as follows: compliment them (but not constantly or they'll catch on), make dinner to help out, ask if there is anything you can do around the house, be especially polite, be kind to your siblings even it is torture, and don't get in trouble at school or give them any reasons to say no to you.

If they still say no, don't get all worked up; there is still a chance to talk them into it.

Chapter two- Guilt

If your parents still won't let you have your way, guilt works well. If your parents are sensitive, then guilt is pretty easy. If they're not, then you may have a lot of work ahead of you. Don't worry; after you do it

once, you'll be an expert.

Call your parents "mommy" and "daddy". That makes them think you're still their little baby and you still love them.

Continue to page 6

Parents...

If that doesn't work, the puppy dog eyes may work just as well. All you have to do is say, "but please daddy/mommy". Don't forget your voice has to sound very whiney. Remember never say "all my friends' parents let them."

Tell them you think they love your sister/brother more than you. Say "you always let him/her do it- why not me?"

Say "Since you don't let me do much else, why can't I just do one little thing?"

Also if you want to really make them feel guilty, the best thing to say is "I promise, cross my heart, I'll never ask you for anything again." Of course you don't have to mean it!

Watch for the third chapter in February's paper.

Christmas Customs...

Customs at Christmas vary around the world. In Sweden, Saint Lucia's Day is an opener to the season on Dec. 13. In India there is a mix of Eastern and Western traditions with the Hindu Festival of Lights called Diwali.

In Japan Christmas is commercialized like in America, a chance for Christians to spread their faith. Australians could celebrate Christmas on the beach because the season is summer.

In Mexico Christmas is not a season for presents, but a time to act out various parts of the Christmas story. In Italy, December 23 opens the Christmas season. On January 6, Befana, a witch, puts candy in the good children's shoes.

rebekkah

hoffmann

Student Council Food Drive

Student council is sponsoring a food drive this week and ending today. Prizes will go to the homerooms that collect the most canned goods. Everyone wins regardless as everyone gets involved in helping out.

Beverly Hills 90210...

Beverly Hills 90210 is one of the most popular shows among teenagers in America today. It's about Brandon and Brenda Walsh, two twins, and their friends who you will hear about later in this article. This show is so popular because it describes what really goes on in a teens life. Unlike other shows, it is very realistic.

CHARACTERS

Jason Priestly-Plays Brandon Walsh on 90210. He lived in British Columbia, but moved to California five years ago. He played in Sister Kate, and had guest appearances on 21 Jump Street, Magyver and Quantum Leap. He is a really sporty guy and he favors ice hockey, rugby, and down hill skiing. He also loves motorcycles and sports cars.

Shannon Doherty, as we all know, as Brenda Walsh has been acting since she was ten years old. Born in Memphis, Tennessee, her first big screen show was "Heathers". Some more movies of hers are "Girls Just Want to Have Fun" and "Night Shift".

Luke Perry, who plays Dylan McKay on 90210, was born in Fredricktown, Ohio. His first television appearances were starring roles in the soap operas, "Loving" and "Another World". He also was in the movies "Terminal Bliss" and "Scorches". He lived and worked in New York City before he moved to L.A. He loves to ride motorcycles, bungee-jump and any other dare-devil things.

Meet Mr. Edinger

Featured teacher this month is Mr. Edinger.

Mr. Edinger told Matt Coash, the GT reporter, that he went to school all twelve years through high school in Constantine.

He went on to Michigan State for college. He decided to become a teacher because "I like teaching, especially history."

Mr. Edinger confided that he was 47. He also told the reporter he had lots of girlfriends when he was in school.

When Mr. Edinger isn't sharing history with 8th graders, he likes to read, listen to oldies music, hunt and fish.

m.coash

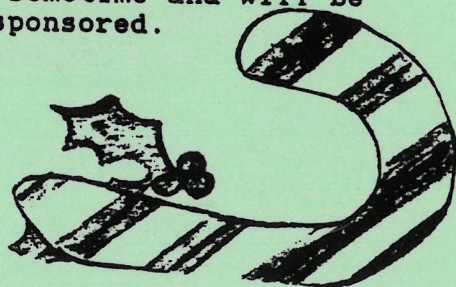
Student Council Members

Student council members were elected last month. Representing the 6th grade are delegates Sarah Grimm, Jenny Ayres, Kim Stover, Anna Verhoeven, Darin Meyer and Pat Lee. Alternates are Beth Tapper, Tim Staggs, Marc Hodges, Becky Henley, Nancy Soule and Sarah Diemer.

7th grade delegates are Kim Abshagen, Lisa White, Angela Edwards, Katy Rock, Ry Charters and David Bush. The alternates are Amanda Byrd, Ayer Truckey, Andy Axe, Jason Zinkil, Matt Weller, Sara Weaver, Doug Diemer, Linda Morrison, Lisa Leathers, and Jeana Bowers.

8th graders who are delegates are Nick Zygadlo, Scott Ernstes, Lindsey Smith, Mary Tapper, Alicia Dacoba, and Amy Christensen. The alternates are Meghan Handy, Nick Harling, Pete Pokryfke, Bethany Ruggles, Genevieve Verhoeven and Krista Wehl.

The next dance will be in January sometime and will be parent-sponsored.



Detective Slick Tracer

It was late on a rainy Tuesday. Shick Tracer, eager to get out of the rain, walked into the Wine Her and Diner. He ordered a flaming moe. The lady he sat next to was his client, Kari Bear. She wanted him to track down her ex-husband's son's friend's babysitter, who was the godmother of a major crime syndicate. They had a grudge and Kari was being hunted down. Shick told her it was going to cost her 50 clams a day. "Any price," said she. "Just go and get that evil babysitter."

Tracer headed out, not knowing where to start. What was the grudge? Who was this mysterious babysitter? How much wood could a woodchuck chuck if a woodchuck could chuck wood? Enough mindless questions, no answers. Just like one of Mr. Zolp's math quizzes. Just then, two tough-looking mugs jumped out of the shadows and tied him up. Tracer was about to get some answers.

Tracer woke up. He was gagged and tied up. But he pulled a shick tracer out of his pocket. It adjusted instantly to the curve of the rope, and he was free. He walked into a wide room and several hundred guns were pointed at him instantly. "Ahh, Tacer. I see you've escaped. Allow me to introduce myself. I am the Babysitter Bandit and these are my colleagues, Plumface and Fattop. And soon, you'll be Swiss cheese."

Don't miss the next episode in February's Good Times.

by Rob Gehl

Seasonal Predictions?

Gemini

Santa's making a list and checking it twice to make sure your name is on the right one.

Cancer

Santa wants something from you. How about cookies?

Aquarius

Don't be bad or you won't get any good presents.

Pisces

You'll meet a reindeer who is a long-lost member of your family.

SANTA CLAUS

Dressed entirely in red velvet,
Riding in a sleigh,
He delivers all the toys
To be opened Christmas Day.

Who is this man that brings us joy?
It is Santa Claus we say,
He brings us gifts and goodies
While on our beds we lay.
v.miller

Christmas Likes

The survey we took on "The things you like most about Christmas" got some interesting responses. The most common response was presents. The next most common responses were "no school" and "spending time with your family."

Some people had a different idea about the question. Some said they liked the snow because they could sled, ski, and do many other things. Two people said they like going to Florida.

Amanda Alexander had another idea yet. She said that she liked seeing people give things to others who are less fortunate than they are.

Finally we get to the strange responses. One person said that they liked Rondo the red-necked reindeer because of the way he says, "Yo Christmas." Another said that their favorite thing about Christmas was the Easter Bunny? There were a whole lot more responses. They ranged from "egg nog", "mistletoe", to "food." A few had a special interest in a certain guy or gal they liked. Thanks a bunch for your responses.

Another Parody ... J3

O burnt up tree
O burnt up tree
How black and bare your branches
My little cousin lit a match
He did not know the flames
would catch
O burnt up tree
O burnt up tree
How black and bare your branches.

Interview Santa ...

When we interviewed Santa Claus at the north pole, we found out many interesting things.

After feeding the reindeer, Santa took time to talk to us. He told us he is 171 years old. "I'm good friends with Father Time," he says. He has had no schooling. He and Mrs. Claus have been married for 125 years. They have no children.

When we asked him how he fits down the chimney, he laughed and said, "I grease it and suck in the best I can."

We also found out that Mrs. Claus makes all his clothes since he is too fat for store-bought. He wears thick long johns to keep warm and loves to smoke his pipe.

Finally we wrapped it up by asking "How many letters do you get a year?"

"A billion. Is that what you want to know?"

"Yes, thanks," we replied, heading for home.
autumn travis and m.c. heather

Presents for the Famous ...

If I could give the stars Christmas presents I would give them as follows:

- George Bush-broccoli
 - Sinead O'Connor- wig
 - Dan Quayle- brain
 - Kitty Dukakis- rubbing alcohol
 - Michael Jackson- singing lessons
 - Madonna- decent clothes
 - M.S.U. coach- a new team
 - Raghib Ismail(Rocket)- a plane ticket back here
 - Cher-a different color wig
 - Al Bundy- a new job
 - Rosanne- a diet
 - Oprah- a good topic
 - Clarence Thomas- a new occupation
- by j.handley and j. surdy

Leo
Keep yc eye on Rudolph for
he's coming your way.
Virgo
Keep your eye on the phone.
Santa may just give you a ring.
Libra-
Keep your eyes open. Something
nice is coming your way.
Scorpio
Something or someone special
is coming your way. May wear a
red suit.
Sagitarrius
All ~~the~~ reindeer are lost and
they ~~may~~ call you. Dancer has your
number!
Capricorn
This Christmas will be a fun
one.
Aries
You may meet a reliable friend
with a white beard.
Taurus
A mystery person will give you
a Ford.

a.neumeier /j.dent

Jessica
Dent



